

Public Notice of Application for Permit

Regulatory Branch (1145) CEPOA-CO-R Post Office Box 6898 Elmendorf AFB, Alaska 99506-0898

PUBLIC NOTICE DATE:

October 6, 2006

EXPIRATION DATE:

November 6, 2006

REFERENCE NUMBER:

POA-2006-1250

WATERWAY:

Knik Arm

Interested parties are hereby notified that an application has been received for a Department of the Army permit for certain work in waters of the United States as described below and shown on the attached plan.

APPLICANT: Matanuska Susitna Borough, 350 East Dahlia Avenue, Palmer, Alaska 99645; (907)745-9689.

AGENT: Mr. Marc Van Dongen, Port Director, Port MacKenzie; mvandongen@matsugov.us; (907) 746-7414.

 $\overline{\text{LOCATION}}$: The project is proposed to extend NW off the Ship Creek Point small boat launch; within section 12, T. 13 N., R. 4 W., Seward Meridian; Latitude 61.13° N., Longitude 149.54° W.; in Anchorage, Alaska.

<u>PURPOSE</u>: To provide a ferry landing on the Anchorage side of a ferry transportation system between Port Mackenzie and Anchorage.

<u>WORK</u>: The proposed ferry landing would involve the construction of a pile-supported trestle, linkspan, and ferry berth. The trestle and linkspan structures would be approximately 21 feet wide and would have approximate lengths of 400 feet and 250 feet respectively. Two 16'x16' winch towers would unite the linkspan with the ferry berth at varying tidal elevations. The ferry berth structure would have a total length of approximately 250 feet and includes mooring and breasting dolphins, berthing fenders, a 4 foot wide catwalk, and a 30' long apron connection to the linkspan. The ferry landing structures would cumulatively involve the installation of approximately 45-55, 3' diameter steel piles. The exact dimensions of the ferry landing structures in navigable waters of the U.S. would vary depending on the configuration of the selected alternative.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: The U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and the Matanuska Susitna Borough (MSB) prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Knik Arm Ferry Project in 2003 and a Supplemental EA, which addresses a change in the location of the Ferry Landing in

Anchorage to the proposed location at Ship Creek Point. This Supplemental EA 30-day public review period expires on October 27, 2006. Copies of the EA can be obtained through the MSB website at http://www.matsugov.us or at the following locations:

Z.J. Loussac Library 3600 Denali Anchorage, AK 99503

Palmer Public Library 655 South Valley Way Palmer, AK 99645

Wasilla Public Library 391 North Main Street Wasilla, AK 99654-7085

Comments to the EA must be submitted to the FTA no later than October 27, 2006, at the following address:

Federal Transit Administration ATTN: Daniel Drais 915 Second Avenue, Room 3142 Seattle, WA 98174 (206)220-7953 Fax: (206)220-7959

COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT ACT CERTIFICATION: Section 307(c)(3) of the Coastal Zone, Management Act of 1972, as amended by 16 U.S.C. 1456(c)(3), requires the applicant to certify that the described activity affecting land or water uses in the Coastal Zone complies with the Alaska Coastal Management Program. A permit will not be issued until the Office of Project Management and Permitting, Department of Natural Resources has concurred with the applicant's certification.

<u>PUBLIC HEARING</u>: Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, reasons for holding a public hearing.

CULTURAL RESOURCES: The latest published version of the Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRS) has been consulted for the presence or absence of historic properties, including those listed in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. There are no listed or eligible properties in the vicinity of the worksite. Consultation of the AHRS constitutes the extent of cultural resource investigations by the District Engineer at this time, and he is otherwise unaware of the presence of such resources. This application is being coordinated with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). Any comments SHPO may have concerning presently unknown archeological or historic data that may be lost or destroyed by work under the requested permit will be considered in our final assessment of the described work.

TRIBAL CONSULTATION: The Alaska District fully supports tribal self-governance and government-to-government relations between the Federal government and Federally recognized Tribes. This notice invites participation by agencies, Tribes, and members of the public in the Federal decision-making process. In addition, Tribes with protected rights or resources that could be significantly affected by a proposed Federal action (e.g., a permit decision) have the right to consult with the Alaska District on a government-to-government basis. Views of each Tribe regarding protected rights and resources will be accorded due consideration in this process. This Public Notice serves as notification to the Tribes within the area potentially affected by the proposed work and invites their participation in the Federal decision-making process regarding the protected Tribal right or resource. Consultation may be initiated by the affected Tribe upon written request to the District Engineer during the public comment period.

ENDANGERED SPECIES:

No threatened or endangered species are known to use the project area. Preliminarily, the described activity will not affect threatened or endangered species, or modify their designated critical habitat, under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (87 Stat. 844). This application is being coordinated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service. Any comments they may have concerning endangered or threatened wildlife or plants or their critical habitat will be considered in our final assessment of the described work.

ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT: The proposed work is being evaluated for possible effects to Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) pursuant to the Magnuson Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1996 (MSFCMA), 16 U.S.C. et seq and associated federal regulations found at 50 CFR 600 Subpart K. The Alaska District includes areas of EFH as Fishery Management Plans. We have reviewed the January 20, 1999, North Pacific Fishery Management Council's Environmental Assessment to locate EFH area as identified by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS).

We have determined that the described activity within the proposed area will not adversely affect EFH, including anadromous fish and federally managed fishery resources.

EVALUATION: The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impacts including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity and its intended use on the public interest. Evaluation of the probable impacts, which the proposed activity may have on the public interest, requires a careful weighing of all the factors that become relevant in each particular case. The benefits, which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal, must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. The decision whether to authorize a proposal, and if so, the conditions under which it will be allowed to occur, are therefore determined by the outcome of the general balancing process. That decision should reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. All factors, which may be relevant to the proposal, must be considered including the cumulative effects thereof. Among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural values, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shore erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership, and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. For activities involving 404 discharges, a permit will be denied if the discharge that would be authorized by such permit would not comply with the Environmental Protection Agency's 404(b)(l) guidelines. Subject to the preceding sentence and any other applicable guidelines or criteria (see Sections 320.2 and 320.3), a permit will be granted unless the District Engineer determines that it would be contrary to the public interest.

The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, State, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

Comments on the described work, with the reference number, should reach this office no later than the expiration date of this Public Notice to become part of the record and be considered in the decision. Please contact Ryan Winn at (907) 753-2712, toll free from within Alaska at (800) 478-2712, if further information is desired concerning this notice.

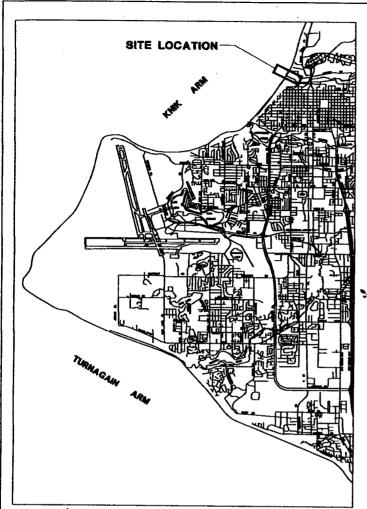
AUTHORITY: This permit will be issued or denied under the following authorities:

(X) Perform work in or affecting navigable waters of the United States - Section 10 Rivers and Harbors Act 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403).

A plan, Notice of Application for Certification of Consistency with the Alaska Coastal Management Program, and Notice of Application for State Water Quality Certification are attached to this Public Notice.

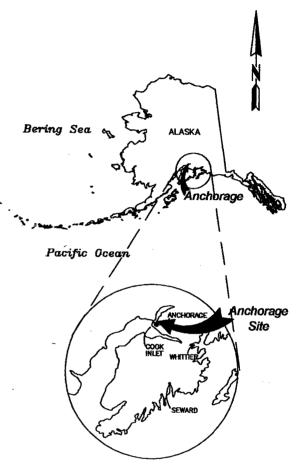
District Engineer U.S. Army, Corps of Engineers

Attachments





SCALE: 1" = 2 mi



| TIDAL INFORMATION | |
|---|--------|
| HIGHEST OBSERVED | 34.59 |
| MEAN HIGH HIGH WATER (M.H.H.W.) | 29.16 |
| MEAN HIGH WATER (M.H.W.) | 28.43' |
| MEAN TIDE LINE (M.T.L.) | 15.34 |
| MEAN LOW WATER (M.L.W.) | 2.25 |
| MEAN LOWER LOW WATER (M.L.L.W.) | 0.0' |
| LOWEST OBSERVED | -6.39' |
| Published by NOAA (2003) for Stg. 9455920 | |

PURPOSE:

COOK INLET FERRY TERMINAL AT SHIP CREEK

PERMIT:

DATUM: MLLW = 0.0' ADJACENT PROPERTY OWNERS: UPLANDS: ALASKA RAILROAD

OFFSHORE: ALASKA RAILROAD

LOCATION AND VICINITY MAPS

SCALE: N.T.S. MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH

350 E. DAHLIA AVE. PALMER, ALASKA

DWG. FILE: 02127.004/Permits/P1_VICMRLVQT SCALE: 1:1

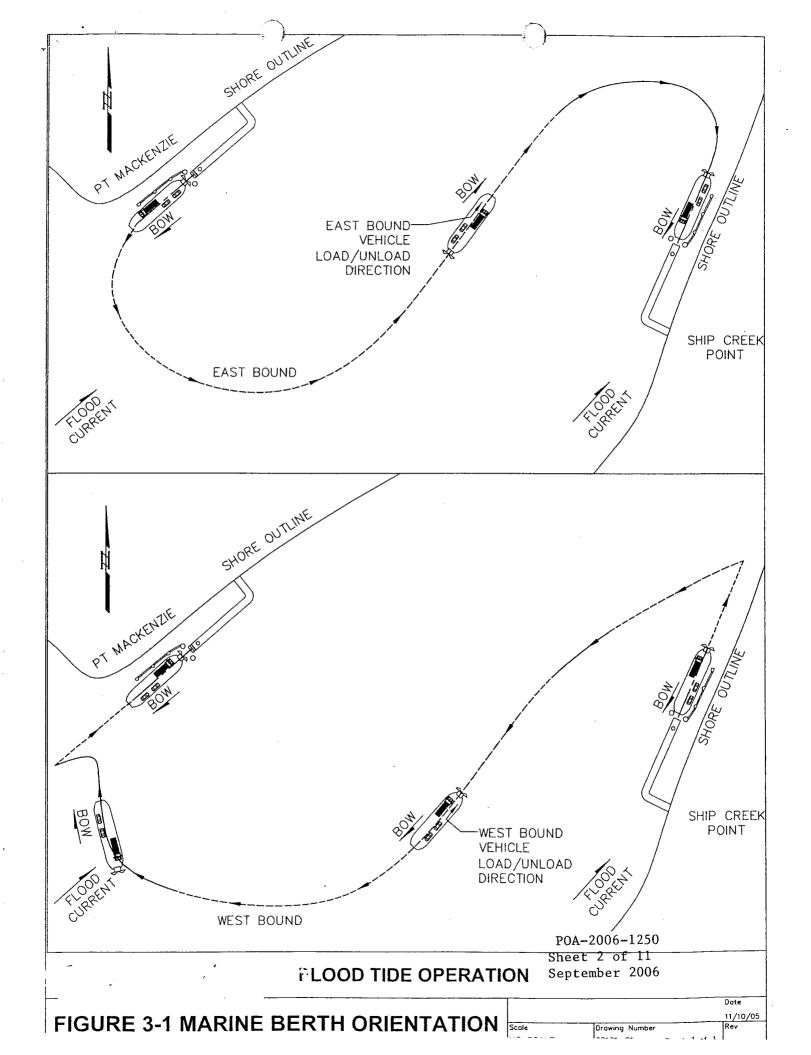
COOK INLET FERRY

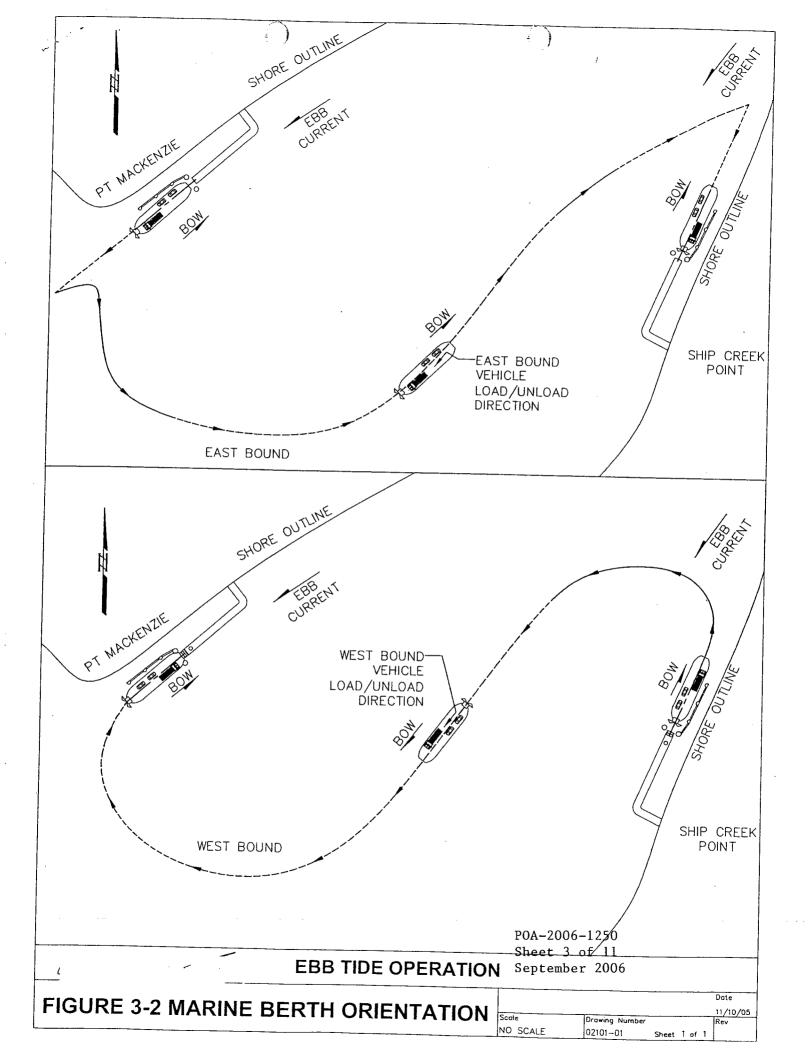
IN: KNIK ARM, COOK INLET AT: SHIP CREEK PT., ANCHORAGE, AK

APPLICATION BY: MAT-SU BOROUGH 350 E. DAHLIA AVE. PALMER, ALASKA 99645 SHEET: 1 OF 6 DATE: 5/10/05

POA-2006- 1250 REV.: 0

Sheet 1 of 11 September 2006

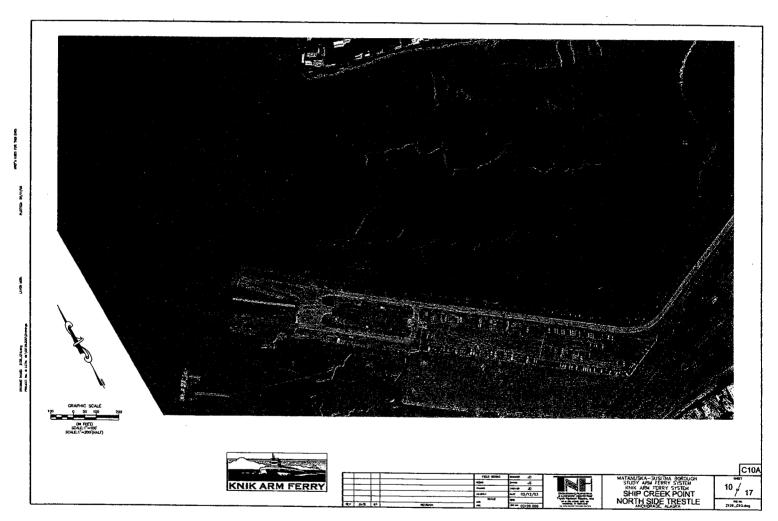






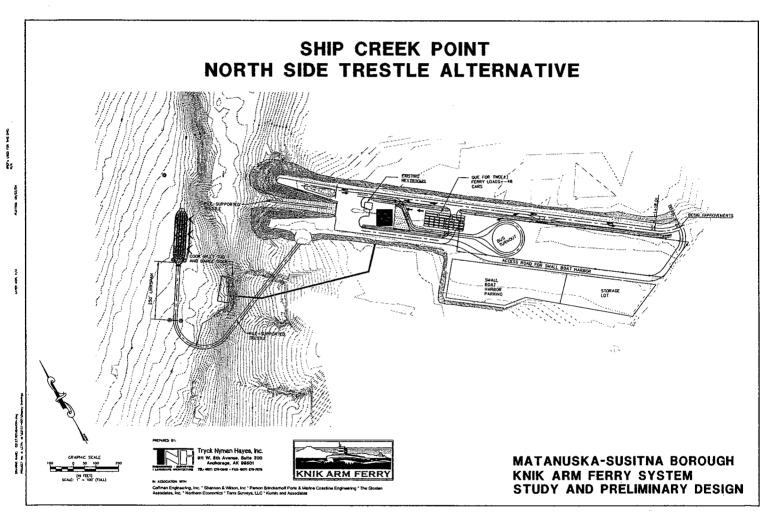
Applicant's Preferred Alternative

POA-2006-1250 Sheet 4 of 11 September 2006



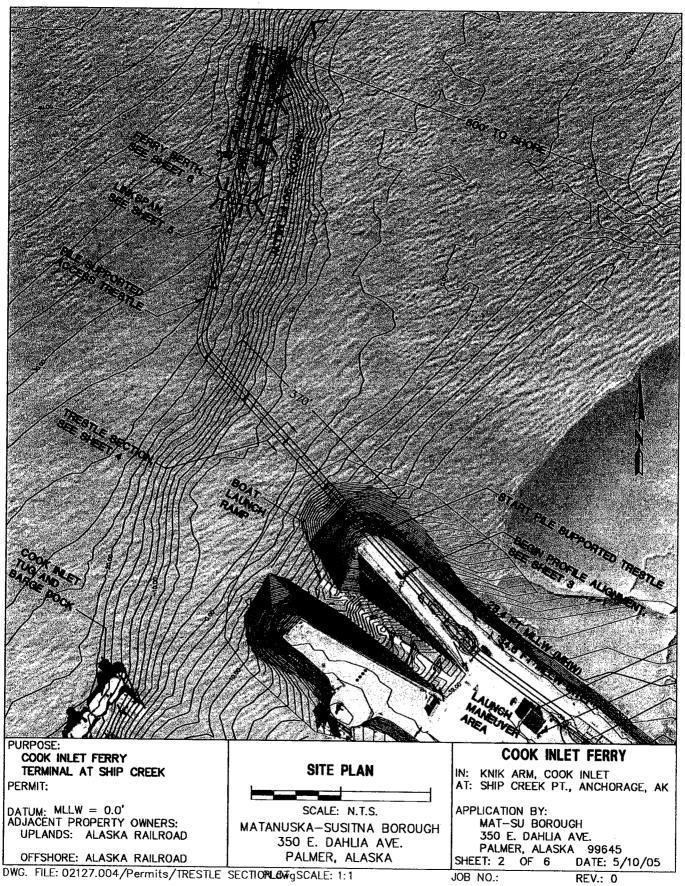
Alternative Configuration A

POA-2006-1250 Sheet 5 of 11 September 2006



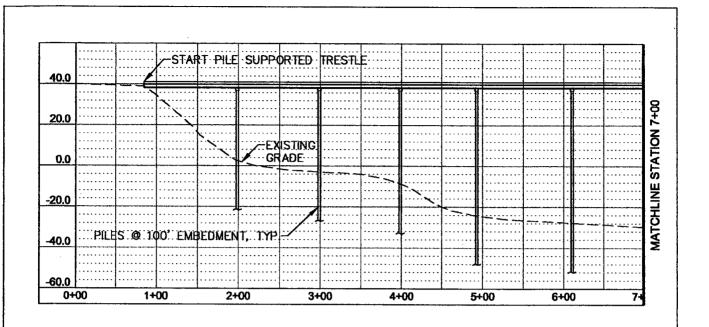
Alternative Configuration B

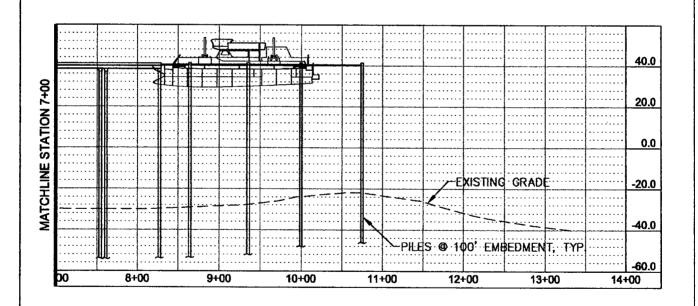
PØA-2006-1250 Sheet 6 of 11 Septémber 2006



Applicant's Preferred Alt. most POA-2006-1250

Sheet 7 of 11 September 2006





PURPOSE:

COOK INLET FERRY TERMINAL AT SHIP CREEK

PERMIT:

DATUM: MLLW = 0.0' ADJACENT PROPERTY OWNERS: UPLANDS: ALASKA RAILROAD

OFFSHORE: ALASKA RAILROAD

STRUCTURE PROFILE

SCALE: N.T.S.
MATANUSKA—SUSITNA BOROUGH
350 E. DAHLIA AVE.
PALMER, ALASKA

DWG. FILE: 02127.004/Permits/TRESTLE SECTIONLOWIGSCALE: 1:1

COOK INLET FERRY

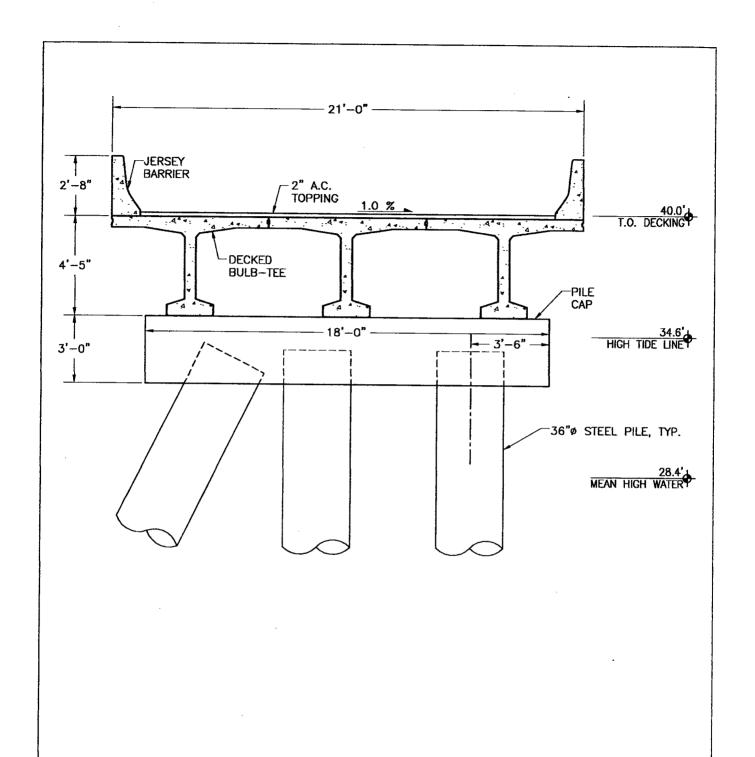
IN: KNIK ARM, COOK INLET AT: SHIP CREEK PT., ANCHORAGE, AK

APPLICATION BY:
MAT-SU BOROUGH
350 E. DAHLIA AVE.
PALMER, ALASKA 99645
SHEET: 3 OF 6 DATE: 5/10/05

JOB NO.:

REV.: 0

POA-2006-1250 Sheet 8 of 11 September 2006



PURPOSE:

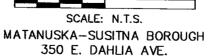
COOK INLET FERRY TERMINAL AT SHIP CREEK

PERMIT:

DATUM: MLLW = 0.0' ADJACENT PROPERTY OWNERS: UPLANDS: ALASKA RAILROAD

OFFSHORE: ALASKA RAILROAD

TRESTLE SECTION



350 E. DAHLIA AVE. PALMER, ALASKA

DWG. FILE: 02127.004/Permits/TRESTLE SECTIONLOWGSCALE: 1:1

COOK INLET FERRY

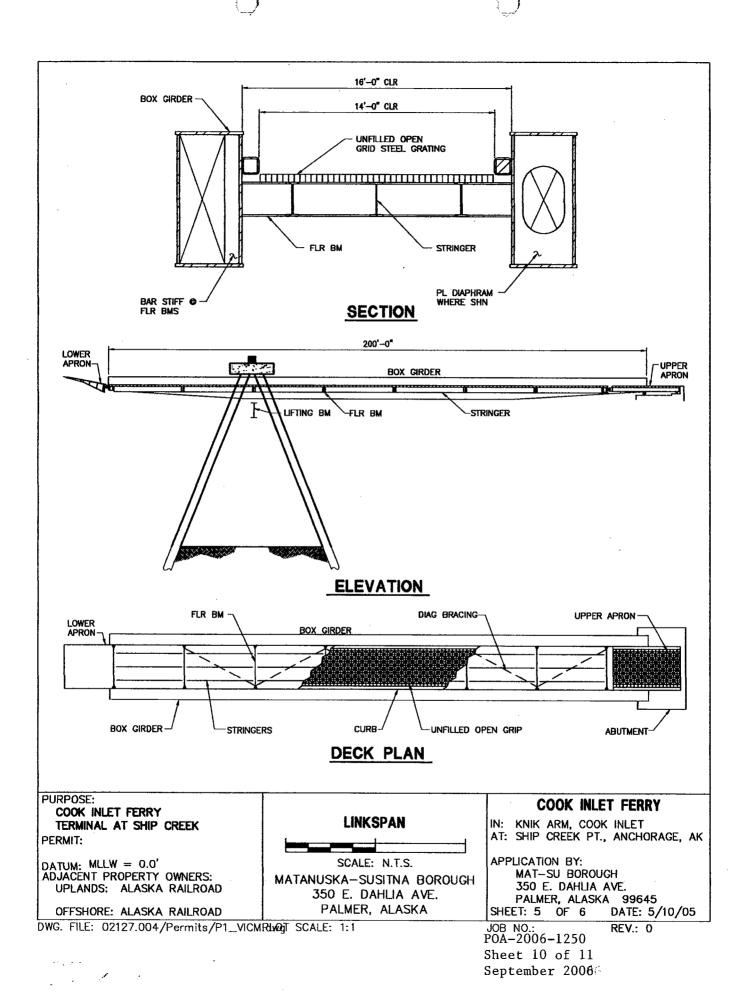
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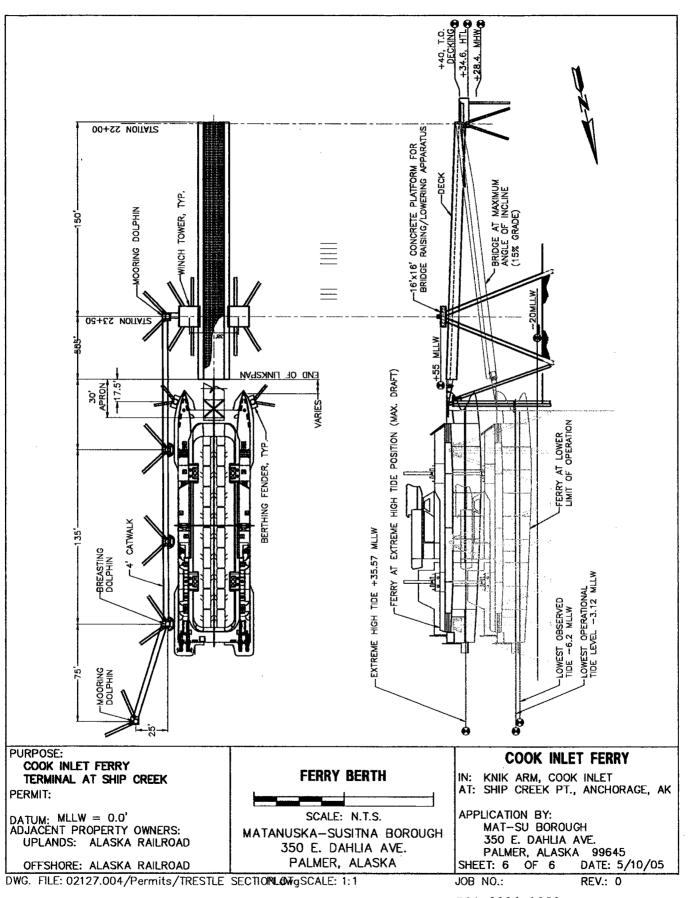
APPLICATION BY: MAT-SU BOROUGH 350 E. DAHLIA AVE. PALMER, ALASKA 99645 SHEET: 4 OF 6 DATE: 5/10/05

JOB NO.:

REV.: 0

POA-2006-1250 Sheet 9 of 11 September 2006





POA-2006-1250 Sheet 11 of 11 September 2006

STATE OF ALASKA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
OFFICE OF PROJECT MANAGEMNT AND PERMITTING

ALASKA COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT 550 WEST 7TH AVENUE, SUITE 1660 ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501-3568

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATION OF CONSISTENCY WITH THE ALASKA COASTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Notice is hereby given that a request is being filed with the Office of Project Management and Permitting for a consistency determination, as provided in Section 307(c)(3) of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, as amended [16 U.S.C. 1456(c)(3)], that the project described in the Corps of Engineers Public Notice No.: **POA-2006-1250, Knik Arm**, will comply with the Alaska Coastal Management Program and that the project will be conducted in a manner consistent with that program.

The Office of Project Management and Permitting requests your comments, particularly on the proposed project's consistency with the affected local coastal district management program. For more information on the consistency review contact OPMP at (907) 269-7470 or (907) 465-3562, or visit the ACMP web site at http://www.gov.state.ak.us/gdc/Projects/projects.html.